

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI**

<b>In re:</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>Case No. 11-46399-705</b>
	<b>§</b>	
<b>Latoya Steward,</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>Chapter 7</b>
	<b>§</b>	
<b>Debtor.</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>[Related to Doc. No. 307]</b>

**ORDER DIRECTING THAT THE AFFIDAVIT AT DOCKET NO. 307 BE  
FORWARDED TO THE PROPER AUTHORITIES**

On August 21, 2015, a well-regarded, long-time bankruptcy practitioner in good standing in this District, Pamela Leonard, filed an affidavit (the “Affidavit”) [Doc. No. 307] in this Case. In the Affidavit, Ms. Leonard attests that, during an unrelated state court proceeding, she was advised by the opposing party—a Mr. Michael Askew—that he retained the services of James C. Robinson to represent him in a bankruptcy case to be filed in this District. Ms. Leonard, being familiar with the order entered in this Case suspending Mr. Robinson from the privilege of practicing law before this Court, attests that she advised Mr. Askew that it was her understanding that Mr. Robinson was suspended. Ms. Leonard attests that Mr. Askew then stated, “Mr. Robinson is only helping out with the paperwork.”

Ms. Leonard is an officer of this Court. She came upon information that suggests that Mr. Robinson is violating a suspension order of this Court and perpetrating a fraud upon the public and this Court by continuing to practice law in violation of his suspension. Ms. Leonard’s decision to disclose to the Court this information is both professionally appropriate and personally commendable.

On August 24, 2015, Mr. Robinson filed a three-line Response to the Affidavit. In his Response, he claims that there is an “allegation” that he assisted Mr. Askew “in a bankruptcy case” and an “allegation” that he assisted Mr. Askew in “filling out bankruptcy papers.” This is false. Ms. Leonard made no allegation of any kind regarding what Mr. Robinson may have done. Ms. Leonard merely attests to representations made to her by Mr. Askew, who advised that Mr. Robinson is his bankruptcy counsel.

Mr. Robinson also makes the representation that “no person has retained my services for bankruptcy since my suspension.” The Court is uncertain of what the imprecise phrase “my services for bankruptcy” means, but notes that Mr. Robinson is prohibited from providing any services in connection with any case that is, or is anticipated to be, filed in this Court—including the service of “helping out with paperwork.”

Mr. Robinson has repeatedly made false and misleading statements to this Court (both in this Case as well as in the matters of *In re Reed, et al.* (Lead Case No. 14-44818)). And, as numerous orders docketed in this Case show, Mr. Robinson also has violated both the terms of his suspension from using the Court’s exteriorly located drop box to file documents, as well as the terms of his suspension from the privilege of practicing before this Court. Given Mr. Robinson’s history of dishonesty and willful disobedience to Court orders, the attestations in the Affidavit come as no surprise to the Court.

The Court **ORDERS** as follows:

- (I) a copy of this Order and the Affidavit be forwarded to the Missouri Supreme Court’s Office of Chief Disciplinary Counsel (the “OCDC”), in supplement to the Court’s currently pending referral of Mr. Robinson’s activities in this Case;
- (II) a copy of this Order and the Affidavit be forwarded to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, in supplement to this Court’s disciplinary referral to the U.S. District Court in June 2014, which lead to the opening of U.S.D.C. Case No. 14-MC-352, a disciplinary proceeding against Robinson now pending before that court; and
- (III) a copy of this Order and Affidavit be forwarded to the Office of the United States Trustee.

In addition, the Court also may give consideration to the Affidavit, should Mr. Robinson seek reinstatement to the privilege of practicing in the future.

DATED: August 26, 2015  
St. Louis, Missouri 63102  
mtc

  
CHARLES E. RENDLEN, III  
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

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